REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action of May 17, 2006. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

First, the abstract has been amended and reduced in length, in accordance with the requirements. It is believed that the abstract now complies with regulations, and approval is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4 and 18-23 were allowed, claims 5, 9, 11, 14, 15 and 17 were objected to but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to include their parent claim(s).

The claims have been amended, so that it is respectfully believed that both independent claims 1 and 12 will be found allowable. The claims that have been objected to but indicated as being allowable have thus not been rewritten in their entirety, pending allowance of their parent claims.

Claims 1, 2, 6-7, 10, 12-13, and 16 were rejected as being obvious over the Koike Patent, U.S. Patent 5,544,012.

The Koike patent discloses a housing that has a number of electrical components for example those shown at 11A and 11B in FIG. 3 of the '012 patent. These electrical components are shown in FIG. 5, and they actually are only housings with internal electrical devices, indicating at 14, such as a power supply circuit unit, an input output circuit unit or a memory unit, contained within the module 11 and the chassis 13. The modules 11 are thus boxes or housings that have an interior space in which electrical modules are mounted. The housings have exhaust fans, that exhaust air into a central duct and then out through the passageways from the main outer housing.

This structure, it is respectfully submitted, is not related to a test apparatus having burn-in boards with integrated circuits that are under test, but rather is merely a housing or box that has air flow through it and the air is exhausted by a fan.

The Examiner indicated that the elements 23 were devices under test, but in fact they are described in the specification as "orientation plates" which means that they are flow directors or vanes rather than devices that are being cooled by the fans in the individual modules.

An air stream is created by the fans, it is admitted, through an intake suction port through the interior of the housings that hold the power supplies and the like for cooling. There is no suggestion at all that these are devices that are being tested while held in a temperature range controlled by operating fans.

Providing a flow of air onto a orientation plate or flow director plate 23 does not, it is respectfully submitted, suggest the use of a fan for individually controlling the temperature of individual integrated circuits that are held in a burn-in board. The integrated circuit temperature is controlled in part by operating cooling fans in response to temperature signals.

In order to clearly distinguish over the cited reference, claim 1 has been amended to essentially incorporate the subject matter of claim 5, including a support that has a heat exchange portion, and with a plurality of separately controllable fans, with each fan providing a flow through an opening in a wall forming a duct in the oven chamber. There is no teaching that the fans are controlled individually in the cited Patent 5,544,012, and in fact it merely shows a fan that runs to generate a flow through a housing, rather than to be used for controlling the temperature of any type of device under test.

Additionally, the definition in claim 1 includes the fan providing this flow of air through the duct, to an exhaust.

Thus, favorable action on claim 1 is believed in order and action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and is believed allowable therewith. Additionally, claim 5 has been canceled, because of the incorporation of the general subject matter in claim 1. Claim 5 was indicated as being allowable and it is believed that claim 1 is now allowable.

Claims 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11, are all believed allowable with claim 1.

Claim 10 has been amended for antecedent basis and for clarity, it is respectfully submitted.

In regard to claim 12, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 incorporates the features of having the air flow controlled by a fan, and a controller for controlling the operation of each fan as a function of a temperature signal provided from the device under test underlying

the respective fan. Thus this is a burn-in board that has test circuits mounted thereon with a fan aligned with the device under test, and the fan directing a cooling fluid from a source down onto the device under test in response to or as a function of the temperature signal provided from the device under test that is being controlled. There is no teaching in the cited reference to Koike, that in any way suggests or teaches controlling the fan in relation to a sensed temperature signal of anything, let alone a device under test.

Thus, it is believed claim 12 is allowable.

Minor amendments have been made to claim 13 for clarity, as well as to claim 16. Claims 18-23, along with claims 3 and 4 were indicated as being allowable.

New claim 24 depends from claim 1 and adds in the heater that is used for keeping devices under test at a desired temperature range utilizing a temperature signal that is in turn used for controlling the fan as well as the heater.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: _____

Nickolas E. Westman, Reg. No. 20,147
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

NEW:sew